

Motor Racing Canadian Grand Prix

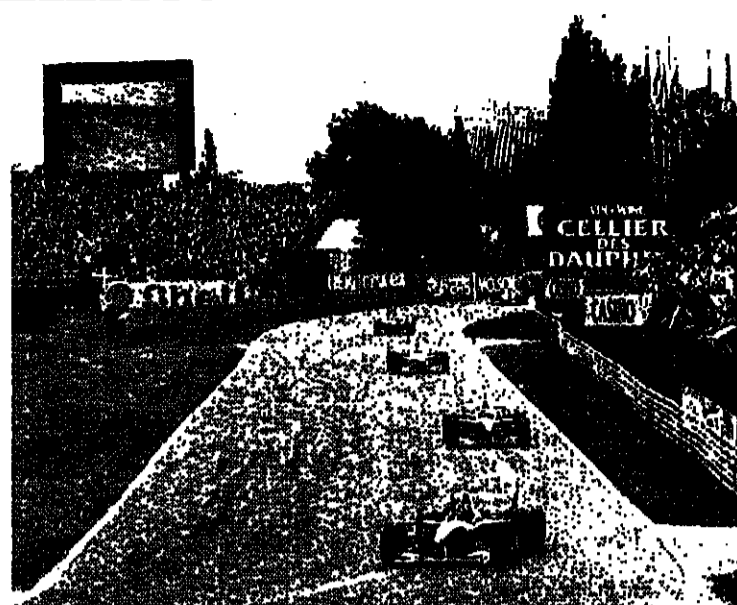
Hill triumphs as Ferrari fumble

Alan Henry in Montreal

DAMON HILL scored a runaway victory in the Canadian Grand Prix here to reverse the disappointments of the past two races and strengthen his position at the head of the world championship table as the season reaches its halfway point. It was the 18th grand-prix victory of his career and another crushing display of superiority by the Williams-Renault team, for whom Jacques Villeneuve completed a one-two finish in front of his home crowd and on the circuit named in honour of his father Gilles. "I'm absolutely delighted," said Hill. "I was starting to worry about two non-scores. No matter what anyone says, these things do get to you."

Jean Alesi's Benetton-Renault finished third, ahead of the McLaren-Mercedes of David Coulthard and Mika Hakkinen, while Martin Brundle celebrated his 150th grand-prix start with a steady sixth place in his Jordan-Peugeot. Hill now has 53 points to Villeneuve's 32 and the further boost that Michael Schumacher failed to add to his score of 26 after a desperate afternoon that began badly and got worse. "Jacques and I knew each other's strategies before, the start," said Hill, who opted for a two-stop race to Villeneuve's one, a decision that proved absolutely justified. "We both knew it was vital to lead at the beginning. The car was perfect all the way."

The same could not be said by Schumacher. Electrical problems stranded the reigning world champion's Ferrari on the parade lap. The Italian team's mechanics fell on the scarlet machine in a frenzy but by the time the V10 engine burst into life Hill was halfway round the lap and Schumacher, though third on the starting grid, had to start at the back of the 20-car pack. On lap 43, and in seventh place, he made the only pit stop his team had envisaged but had to retire seconds later when a drive-shaft broke and flew off the car as he was accelerating out of the pit lane. Hill, who had been fastest in the crucial half-hour warm-ups on race morning, started with a lighter fuel load than Villeneuve, intent on taking full advantage of a clear track in the opening stages. He pulled away steadily and Villeneuve tucked into second place ahead of Alesi and Eddie Irvine's Ferrari. Midway round the second lap the Ulsterman slowed after feeling the Ferrari's handling suddenly deteriorate. After allowing the rest of the field to overtake he drove gingerly round the pits, where the car was retired with damaged suspension. Hill made his first refuelling stop on lap 28, allowing Villeneuve through for a temporary lead, an achievement which moved the local crowds to a degree of fervour which proved as fleeting as their man's advantage. Villeneuve came in for his first stop on lap 36 and Hill surged back into the lead, quickly stabilising a commanding lead over Villeneuve. Alesi meanwhile was gradually coming under pressure from his teammate Berger. Schumacher's strategy to make a single refuelling stop might have worked in his favour had he been up with the leaders, but now it left him with a fuel-heavy Ferrari boxed in among the slower cars. By the time the race reached the 23-lap mark — one-third distance — he was still trailing round in 11th place, struggling to challenge Johnny Herbert's Sauber and Mika Salo's Tyrrell immediately ahead.



Follow the leader... Damon Hill in front before recording his victory in the Canadian Grand Prix. PHOTOGRAPH: PASCAL RONDEAU

Le Mans

Joest grab easy victory

PORSCHE scored a one-two-three in the Le Mans 24-hour race which finished on Sunday, but to the German makers' chagrin their two works cars were edged out of first place by an independent prototype.

The race was won in style by a Porsche-powered Joest, based on a 1991 Jaguar XJ 14 with the roof removed. It was steered to victory by a virtual league of nations: Germany's Manuel Reuter, Austria's Alexander Wurtz and America's Davey Jones, who was in the driving seat for the final stint. It was a third triumph for the German team Joest, following wins in 1984 and 1985. "For a private team to win Le Mans two times was very lucky," the team owner Reinhold Joest said. "But winning it a third time proves we must be doing it right."

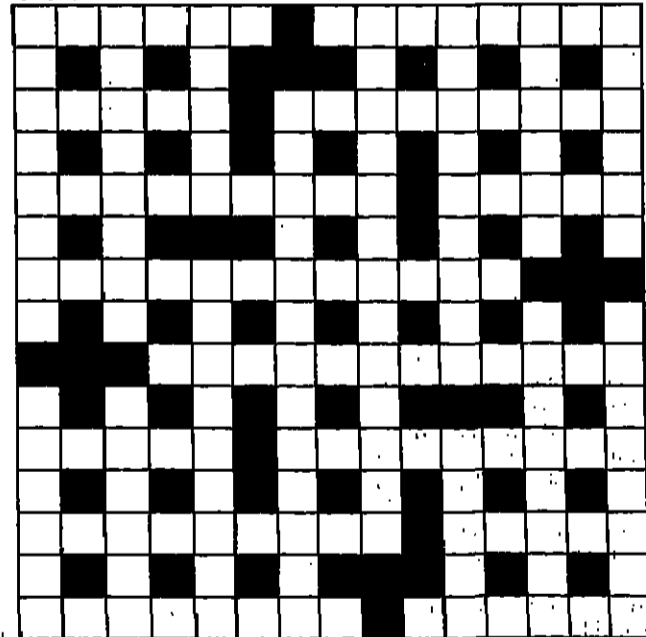
Porsche's new 911 GT1s took second and third. Germany's Hans Stuck, Belgium's Thierry Boutsen and France's Bob Wollek had taken the lead several times during the night but only because Joest were making pit stops. They eventually had to settle for the runners-up spot. Joest had taken the lead soon after the start on Saturday and made the most of a trouble-free race in warm, dry conditions. They covered 354 circuits of the eight-mile track at an average speed of 120mph.

By lap 43 Schumacher had climbed to seventh place when he came in for his single refuelling stop. The car was stationary for 12.4 seconds but, as he accelerated down the pit lane, rival teams were stunned to see a drive-shaft fly off the car.

With only one rear wheel now driving, Schumacher knew his cause was doomed and he crawled back to the pit lane and retired. It ended a dismal day for Ferrari after hopes were raised by their victory in Barcelona.

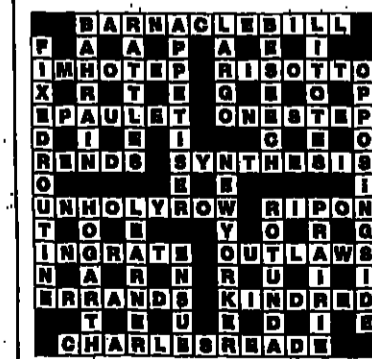
With the next three races taking place on three of the fastest circuits on the F1 schedule — Magny-Cours, Silverstone and Hockenheim — Hill will be out to press home his advantage as Ferrari steel themselves to recover from this unexpected setback.

Cryptic crossword by Araucaria



- Isn't (asks vicar) a sinner? (2-3) O is a cat of the snow; tell the world that the girl has to go (6) P for two more such as K; Mac-donna and child on last day (5) Q my health is all right; if someone where in Surrey, take flight (5,4) R I am making whoopes; not straightforward to terrify me (9) S goes to pubs taking fyle in simply magnificent style (8) T pen in one brand that's free with cain as of satellite's sea (12) U is the next thing to hide — thing cruel don't transmogrified (13) V to give out to the quick's for religious brigade double six (8) W unyielding in fight, respected, if not in despite (12) X with ten articles laden, the name (for a blonde?) of a maiden (6) Y when it climbs study road, which boredom or sleepiness showed (8) Z from this isle to ascend ran a business enclosed at the end (8)

Last week's solution



- Method: Solve the clues and fit the solutions into the diagram jigsaw-wise, wherever they will go A fever's damage to spleen; a guest soap no way to be seen (4-4) B full account (start with end) of child with a sinister bend (2-4) C are diminutive jokes or wreaths worn by classical folks (8) D for Tim's turn Paul's advice from French about triumph on ice (5,4) E is for Duke and for duke, the one that his leader forsook (3) F home from far fields with hunt (9,4) I make notes on a cheat at the front (8-3) G for this novel this script? Become thick when the monarch has skipped (6) H for a plant grown inside, a standard the firm waves with pride (5-4) I is a lobe in the brain, a second in decampers (6) J the month's brief, I give thanks, for rulers of military ranks (6) K is a character Greek, a checker of rates, so to speak (6) L takes up minimum space; an article's entered in case (5) M ends in cross to keep quiet (6) N the dead get their way in a diet (8) for the East time for dinner; who

The Guardian Weekly

Vol 154, No 26 Week ending June 30, 1996

The Washington Post Le Monde

Lilley evades court ruling on refugees

Alan Travis

THE British government is to overturn a Court of Appeal judgment on withdrawing welfare benefits from most asylum seekers by rushing emergency asylum legislation through Parliament. The court, in one of the most devastating rulings delivered by judges against ministers, last week declared illegal a policy which has deprived more than 8,000 asylum seekers of welfare benefits since February. The social security secretary, Peter Lilley, insisted the proposed measures were essential if Britain were to remain a safe haven for genuine refugees and not a "soft touch" for false claimants. "We are determined that this judgment will not provide a blank cheque for bogus asylum seekers," he said.

But his Commons statement on Monday caused an outcry. Labour said the plan to rush through a series of amendments to the Asylum and Immigration Bill was an "abuse of process", while immigrants' rights groups called it a "moral outrage". The decision to introduce emergency legislation means that ministers decided it was unlikely they would win an appeal if they took their case to the House of Lords. The new legislation will be incorporated into the bill at the last possible moment, with new clauses being tabled on July 1 at their third reading stage in the Lords. Mr Lilley said the new legislation would write into statute the power to exclude benefits from asylum seekers who failed to claim refugee status when they first arrived, or

whose claim had been rejected but who were appealing. His one small concession was to say that those whose asylum claims were eventually granted in full would receive a welfare benefit payment backdated to the day they lodged a claim for refugee status. Claud Moraes, director of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, which brought the Appeal Court case on behalf of Miss B, an asylum seeker fleeing from Zaire, said the Government's action was a moral outrage. "To come back with emergency legislation simply because they don't want to face the higher court shows the moral depths to which this Government has sunk in attempting to keep the 'race card' element of the Asylum Bill intact." The director of the Refugee

Council, Nick Hardwick, was disturbed about the details of the package: "The new proposals won't work because it takes an average of 18 months to have asylum claims finally determined. How is a person supposed to survive in the meantime?" In their ruling last week, the senior judges described Mr Lilley's policy of withdrawing welfare benefits as "uncompromisingly draconian". The withdrawal of benefits meant that in practice it was "not merely difficult but totally impossible for them to remain here to pursue their asylum claims", said Lord Justice Walle. But it was also the strong moral terms of the judgment which were unusual. The ruling said asylum seekers were not allowed to work and only a very few would get help from charities. The "vast majority

would be left without even the most basic means of subsistence". More than 8,000 people seeking asylum in Britain have been left without official means of support since their entitlement to claim benefits was withdrawn on February 5. The Benefits Agency has instructed its office to start accepting new claims from asylum seekers in line with the Appeal Court ruling. They will pay welfare benefits to asylum seekers until the emergency legislation becomes law in mid-July. Torture victims who claim refugee status in Britain are to be exempted from the new Asylum and Immigration Bill. The Government announced earlier last week. The decision, taken after a House of Lords revolt, means that asylum seekers who can show a reasonable likelihood that they have been tortured will not have to go through a new fast-track appeals procedure.

Race relations good, page 8

Mirror back on warpath

FOURTEEN summers ago, in the midst of the Falklands war, the Sun was fomenting hatred against Argentina. The Daily Mirror called the Sun a "coarse and demented newspaper", and quite right too, comments Matthew Engel. But among the headlines and captions on the first three pages of Monday's Mirror were "Achtung Surrender", "Mirror declares football war on Germany", "The Mirror Invades Berlin", plus, of course, the stale jokes about sun-loungers. The tone throughout was that this week's semi-final against Germany in the European Championship was not a re-run of the World Cup final but of the second world war. Maybe it was intended to be funny. Only the humourless could believe that. It was coarse and demented journalism.

The Germans can probably take it. They will assume this is yet another manifestation of the British tragedy. The boogymen may not be so relaxed. English football is not yet so free of the disease that nearly killed it to make this kind of provocation necessarily cost-free. It is obviously irresponsible journalism. To those of us who care about newspapers, there is something else. It was the second world war that raised the Daily Mirror to greatness. During hostilities its mixture of lightness of heart and seriousness of purpose made it the embodiment of the ordinary Briton's determination.

If the Mirror is articulating the nation's attitude now, this is a very sick country. I hope and trust, though, that all we have is a sick and desperate newspaper.



'Turbulent priest' bids farewell

AN-ERA in South Africa's Anglican church came to an end at the weekend when Archbishop Desmond Tutu (above) formally retired at a moving service in Cape Town's St. George's Cathedral, writes David Barryford. Nelson Mandela paid tribute to his fellow Nobel laureate by bestowing on him the highest honour in the land — the newly-created Gold Order for Meritorious Service, awarded for the first time.

Archbishop Tutu's period of office will be remembered not only for his opposition to apartheid, but for his determined stand on principle even when it threatened to bring him into conflict with black South Africa. His election as Archbishop of Cape Town in 1986 threatened to split the Anglican Church in South Africa, many whites threatening to leave rather than accept the authority of the "turbulent priest" and his high-profile support of sanctions. But his fierce independence has brought him a popularity in all sections of society, rivalling even that of President Mandela. PHOTO: GUY/ATLANTA

Arab leaders warn Israel not to backtrack on peace

ARAB leaders ended their two-day summit this week with a warning to Israel's new rightwing government that they will "reconsider" concessions made in the name of the peace process if Israel backtracks on land-for-peace, the principle on which the process has been based. They said there must be full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, and that the Palestinians must be permitted to set up an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital. That the first summit in six years took place at all and then passed off without serious disputes was a considerable success for the Egyptian president, Hosni Mubarak, and his efforts to restore a modicum of Arab solidarity.

Apart from Libya's Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, who accused everyone of letting everyone else down, the most discordant note was struck, as expected, by King Hussein of Jordan. "We deny any evil the right to protect the forces of state and terrorism that seek to achieve their aims under the guise of religion or ideology," he told the conference. "Cross-border terrorism must be fought through condemnation, pursuit or liquidation, wherever its dens may be."

While doubtless intended as music to the ears of Israel and the United States, his words were also an implicit attack on Syria's President Hafez al-Assad, his alleged dispatch of "saboteurs" into Jordan and his support for Hizbullah, in south Lebanon. In his opening address, Mr Mubarak set the tone of the summit, saying: "We are not warmongers and we reject violence." But in an implicit denunciation of the headline programme of the new Israeli prime minister, Binyamin

Netanyahu, and such preconditions as his refusal to withdraw from the Golan, he said: "If any party allows itself to choose what to negotiate and what not, then other parties have the same right, which brings the peace process to zero, or totally destroys it." Reuter adds: Mr Netanyahu criticised the Arab summit on Monday, saying success in the peace process required an end to "one-sided demands". In response to the summit's vow to reconsider concessions if Israel tries to change the terms of negotiations, he said: "One-sided demands which harm security do not go together with talks for peace. For the process to continue successfully and fruitfully, such statements must be stopped."

Yeltsin sacks his Kremlin hard men

Desperate search for Bosnia's missing

Greeks lose their charismatic leader

Major ends his war with Europe

Eric Hobsbawm's worry about Labour

Table with international rates and prices for various countries including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

The Week in Britain James Lewis

Blair walks tall in Germany but skulks on workers' rights

FOR A MAN who has yet to win a general election, Labour's leader, Tony Blair, made a strong impression on the German political establishment when he visited Bonn last week to set out his party's stance on Europe. He was received by both President Roman Herzog and Chancellor Helmut Kohl; was warmly applauded by business leaders as he put the Labour line on European monetary union; and fêted by the Social Democrats as a leader of the modern Left.

Though the mood music was harmonious, much of what Mr Blair actually said was ambiguous and not significantly different from what has been said from time to time by the Prime Minister.

Britain, said Mr Blair, should be "succeeding in Europe not falling, winning not losing, walking tall, not skulking on the sidelines". On the other hand, "you should not expect us to agree with everything that comes from Bonn or Brussels".

Labour would "not seek to merge our national identities into an international superstate", but a Labour government would "seek a European global framework for key decisions that affect all our lives". In principle, Labour considered a single currency could have benefits and would not try to obstruct it. But if economies linked by a single currency were not "genuinely and sustainably convergent", there would be a risk to weaker economies, and especially to jobs.

Mr Blair, like John Major, has Eurosceptics to placate. He also has a trade union audience to address, and some of it is displeased by the way the leader is back-tracking on pledges made by his predecessor, John Smith, on employment rights. A Labour pre-election document on workers' rights does not, for example, promise to reverse any of the Conservatives' hated anti-union legislation.

Mr Smith had promised that workers would have employment rights — such as protection against unfair dismissal — from their first day in a job. That has now been abandoned. A pledge to outlaw "zero-hours" contracts — where workers are required to be on continuous call with no guarantee of work — has been watered down; other abuses, which union leaders hoped to see stamped out, will now simply be "examined".

Eric Hobbsbawn, page 12

IN AN EFFORT to create "clear blue water" between itself and the Opposition in education policy, the Government plans to establish "a grammar school in every town". Grant-maintained schools which have opted out of town hall control will be allowed to "select" up to half their intake (by interview or examination) and local authority schools up to a fifth. The Funding Agency for Schools (FAS), which channels state funds into opt-out schools, will also be empowered to build grammar schools, even in places where there is a surplus of places in existing comprehensive schools.

Mr Major, an admirer of grammar schools, is doubtless hoping that his plans will release a wave of parental demands for new selective schools, particularly in Labour-

dominated areas traditionally hostile to any form of selection. The Tories also hope to embarrass Labour since Mr Blair and his shadow health secretary, Harriett Harman, have both chosen to send their children to grant-maintained schools.

It is unlikely that many new grammar schools, costing around £10 million each, will be built since the £30 billion budget of the FAS is not to be increased. Labour's education spokesman, David Blunkett, dismissed the idea as "a sham to satisfy the Conservative right wing".

JONATHAN AIKEN, the former Treasury Chief Secretary, was cleared by a committee of MPs of any wrongdoing in the arms-to-Iraq affair. The Trade and Industry Select Committee said it found no evidence that he knew of illegal exports to Iraq by a Lincolnshire arms company, BMARC, of which he was a former non-executive director.

The former chairman of BMARC, Gerald James, who was at the centre of the allegations against Mr Aiken, said he was shocked at the way his evidence had been dismissed and complained that the committee's purpose was to give Mr Aiken a "clean bill of health" rather than to uncover the truth behind the scandal.

Mr Aiken resigned from the Cabinet after facing a string of damaging accusations and is still engaged in a long-running legal battle over allegations in the Guardian and on Granada TV about his links with Arab businessmen.

THE LEADER of a gang that stole treasures worth more than £40,000 from 500 churches has been imprisoned for 10 years. Oxford Crown Court was told that Simon Draycott had led a highly organised gang of 30 professional criminals who had effectively destroyed part of the nation's heritage.

Posing as an architectural enthusiast, he had taken advantage of the "open door" policy of churches to walk in and take what he wanted over a period of eight months. When churches were locked he asked for the key, pretending to be a worshipper. He concentrated on Gothic, Norman and Saxon churches, and sold "priceless" and irreplaceable religious artefacts to dealers in Britain and abroad.

One vicar whose church was robbed told the court that Britain's churches were "supermarkets without cash registers".

GAMBLERS in pubs and slot machine arcades welcomed a further liberalisation in gaming laws, which more than doubles the previous limit in cash prizes from £4 to £10.

Machine operators hoped it would help them to recover some of all of the 12 per cent business they have lost since the launch of the National Lottery.

The National Council on Gambling was critical, claiming that even before the National Lottery there was already more gambling in Britain than in any other European country.



Wood cuts . . . Sculptor Walter Bailey with his latest work, celebrating the new Kingsley natural trail in woodland by Ardingley reservoir, near Haywards Heath, West Sussex. (PHOTO, FRANK BAMBREY)

MPs vote to change Bill of Rights

Rebecca Smithers

MPs VOTED by a large majority to alter the 300-year-old Bill of Rights, giving themselves unprecedented new powers to sue newspapers over reports of their parliamentary activities.

The MPs on Monday voted down Labour's attempt to strike out the controversial new clause — added to the Defamation Bill last month in the House of Lords — by 284 to 20.

The change was introduced as result of a single-handed campaign by the former trade minister, Neil Hamilton, whose attempt to sue the Guardian over "cash for questions" allegations was stayed by the High Court after the newspaper pleaded the privileges conferred on MPs by the 1689 Bill of Rights.

Mr Hamilton served notice that he would reopen his case against the Guardian as soon as the bill receives royal assent.

As the bill reached its crucial report and third reading stage in the Commons, the shadow legal affairs spokesman, Paul Boateng, criticised the Government for allowing the clause to be rushed through Parliament with relatively little debate.

Last month peers overwhelmingly backed the amendment which effectively closes a legal loophole by overturning the law of parliamentary privilege, under which freedom of speech in Parliament cannot be questioned in a court.

The Guardian had successfully argued that privilege had left it unable to defend itself in Mr Hamilton's libel action in court, so it should not go ahead.

Immigrant in arrest row

THE Home Office launched an urgent inquiry last week into why ministers were not told that Albert Tong, an illegal immigrant smuggled "kicking and screaming" from a church where he had sought sanctuary, suffered from a medical condition, writes Geoffrey Giles.

Ann Widdicombe, the immigration minister, admitted that she was unaware that Mr Tong, aged 45, who has lived in Britain for 17 years, was ill. Officials later conceded that they had not told ministers.

Mr Tong fled his home in Cornwall to avoid being deported to Hong Kong. Church leaders condemned the forced removal from church sanctuary, as did the parish surgeon who examined him to see whether he was fit to travel.

Mr Tong was arrested at the Methodist chapel in Margate, Kent, Penzance last week, and was admitted to hospital after collapsing while what the Home Office said was a panic attack, while in custody at Newquay police station. The home minister said Mr Tong might have suffered a slight heart attack.

Deportation would separate Mr Tong from Becky, his Cornish-born wife, and their three-year-old daughter, Monica. In a statement last month, Mr Tong said the Roman Catholic priest, the Rev Michael Ball, Bishop of Truro, said the Roman Catholic Church condemned the Home Secretary's actions in breaking up a family.

CRE says Britain has better race record than most of EU

James Melke

BRITAIN'S race relations record is among the best in Europe despite concerns about deepening alienation among some young ethnic minority groups, the Commission for Racial Equality said last week.

A more upbeat message welcoming positive shifts in behaviour and attitudes, heralded in its annual report, is to be followed next month by publicity about the contribution black, Asian and Irish communities make to institutions and professions: London Underground, the National Health Service, the corner shop, university professorships and physicians.

But commission chairman Herman Ouseley warned against complacency and called for continuing "hard graft" and leadership from public figures, adding that much discrimination was covert and subtle.

Half of Britain's black and Asian communities had been born here, and "we ignore at our peril" the expectations of young people who wanted to be valued "as black or Asian and British", he said. Their alienation had helped cause last year's "race riots" in many parts of the country. "Thankfully there were no

major riots, but Bradford and Brixton came close . . . giving us a glimpse of the kind of social unrest none of us wants."

Mr Ouseley suggested that asylum legislation — and newspaper coverage of it — did not match the Government's claim that "fair but firm" race relations policies were in the best interests of all citizens.

"The notion of 'bogus' arrivals at British airports has taken root in our folklore, and every message reinforces the damaging and false stereotype of immigrants as people who only know a few words of English; benefits, asylum and lottery handouts."

But Mr Ouseley added: "We were able to draw some comfort from the knowledge that race relations in Britain during 1995 were as good as, if not better than, anywhere else in Europe, where intolerance and xenophobia have reached unacceptable levels . . . While we can give ourselves the occasional, well-deserved, congratulatory pat on the back as a nation, we can and must do more to improve the present situation."

Formal applications to the commission for help in pursuing race discrimination cases fell from a record 1,937 in 1994 to 1,082 last year, but previous dips in numbers have not lasted.

MPs vote to change Bill of Rights

UK 'will pay high price' for beef war

Guardian Reporters

THE Government was this week facing up to the high price of its beef war with the European Union as the Florence summit produced a phased lifting of the ban on British exports and its immediate end to Britain's non-cooperation policy.

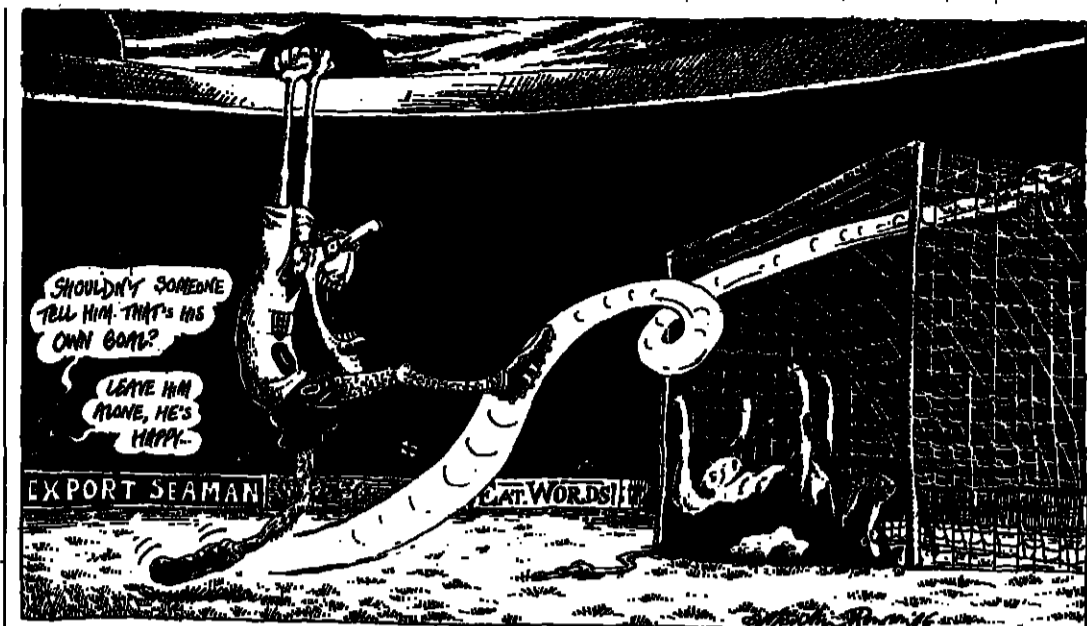
The Government must now face the pressures of a special summit in Dublin on October 19 to discuss closer political integration and make up for time lost by the beef dispute.

John Major welcomed the summit as a chance to clear the air. But the Swedish prime minister, Goran Persson, was one of many EU leaders to warn that, after the 12-week dispute over BSE-tainted cattle and Mr Major's policy of blocking EU business, the British government faces a more united and hostile EU. "I think the British will pay a very, very high price for what they have done."

Aware that progress in drawing up a new treaty — which most EU governments see as a step to closer union — has been slow, the other 14 leaders, led by President Jacques Chirac of France with the support of the German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, have asked the Irish government to call a special meeting of the heads of government after it assumes the EU presidency on July 1.

It will be held in Dublin, probably on October 19, a week after the Conservative party conference and coinciding with Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party's first conference in Brighton.

They identified a series of highly controversial reforms, including greater majority vote decisions, greater powers for the European Parliament, and the pooling of sovereignty in key areas of foreign, security and defence policy, justice



and immigration. Britain is in a small minority opposing change to the present treaty on almost all those points.

Despite the anger of Britain's partners about the use of more than 100 vetoes, the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, said the tactics had paid off. "For the first eight weeks of this very sad dispute, very little progress was made. In the last four weeks we have seen real progress of a substantial kind, and I am delighted," he said.

This claim was contradicted by others. "The British have got nothing through non-co-operation they would not have got anyway," the Irish prime minister, John Bruton, said.

The spokesman for the European Commission president, Jacques Santer, was even more blunt. "If the British had come forward earlier with their BSE eradication plan and

a framework agreement proposal — which we only got in the last few days — this could have been achieved much earlier." Klaus van der Pas said.

With most Conservative Eurosceptics at Westminster now eager to end the beef dispute, the extra summit will become the focus of their efforts to prevent Mr Major being drawn into closer EU integration.

Member governments plan to change the rules of the EU to prevent a repeat of the disruptive tactics Britain employed against the beef ban. The Belgian prime minister, Jean-Luc Dehaene, said that no EU government should in future be able to veto decisions on matters unrelated to the disputed issue.

Mr Dehaene — vetoed by Mr Major for the Commission presidency — insisted that no other country should ever be able to follow the British example.

Labour plan for 'flexible' welfare benefits criticised

Jan Black

EUROPEAN Union countries are prepared to accept the validity of an Iranian fatwa ordering the killing of Salman Rushdie in return for assurances that Iran will not attempt to execute the death warrant.

Britain is certain strongly to oppose the deal, which is expected to be pursued by Ireland when it assumes the EU presidency next month, on the grounds that Iran cannot be trusted.

But diplomatic sources say a majority of EU members now supports a compromise under which letters to be exchanged with Iran

would include a specific reference to the continuing "validity and irrevocability" of the seven-year-old fatwa in return for written guarantees that Tehran will not send agents to murder the novelist.

The fatwa, a religious edict theoretically binding on all Muslims, was issued in 1989 by the late Ayatollah Khomeini after publication of Mr Rushdie's novel *The Satanic Verses*.

Failure to proceed on the basis of a draft text acceptable to Iran would mean an end to the EU initiative begun by France last year to secure a "ceasefire" that would circumvent the 1989 edict, the sources say. The

Details

- Britain has promised to:
 - slaughter about 120,000 cattle most at risk from BSE, born since 1989
 - introduce an effective animal identification and movement recording system with official registration
 - phase plans to remove meat and bones from feed mills and farms and to clean up the premises and equipment
 - implement effectively the rule that animals older than 30 months must be killed and destroyed and their work lives so they do not enter the food chain
 - improve methods for removing high-risk material from animal carcasses
 - submit all these measures to EU inspections
 - report on progress every two weeks to the European Commission
 - end the policy of non-cooperation with EU business
- The five phases of lifting the export ban will cover:
 - Animals and meat from herds certified as having no history of BSE and no exposure to infected feed
 - Embryos
 - Animals born after a date yet to be decided and aged less than 30 months
 - Meat from animals aged under 30 months
 - In the long run, meat from animals over 30 months
 - In addition, the Commission will consider requests from any non-EU countries for permission to import British beef, providing that it will not be re-exported.

members to agreed economic objectives.

Germany is still pushing for tough and automatic sanctions on EMU countries which break the terms of Maastricht. But most EU countries backed a more flexible formula penalising only countries running persistent budget deficits.

Sarwar wins rerun of Glasgow contest

Erlend Clouston

A POTENTIAL parliamentary champion for the United Kingdom's 3 million Muslims emerged on Monday when Mohammed Sarwar, the cash-and-carry millionaire, captured the Labour nomination for the highly winnable seat of Glasgow Govan.

Mr Sarwar, a 43-year-old city councillor, easily defeated the Glasgow Central MP Mike Watson in the rerun ballot conducted amid unprecedented security. The winner's majority of 82

will have delighted party officials dreading a replay of last December's neck-and-neck ballot, which ended controversially in a one-vote victory for Mr Watson.

Mr Sarwar has attracted some criticism from diehards in a Scottish party unused to the idea of successful capitalists coming on side.

Mr Watson, whose constituency will be abolished at the next election, may have paid the price for last week's court bid to have 25 electors disqualified — conceived as a snub to the se-

nior Labour personnel who had previously validated them. In a 93 per cent turnout, his support dropped from 245 to 197, while Mr Sarwar's rose 34 to 270.

Because of the allegations of forgery which forced Labour's national executive committee to scrap last December's ballot, voters this time had to queue for more than an hour while officials checked their identity.

The Scottish National Party has been watching the squabbling with undigusted glee, hoping the power struggle will have weakened Labour.

British firms 'trade in terror'

Maggie O'Kane
THE British government is "trading in terror" by allowing the export of torture equipment, according to Amnesty International's annual report. Britain is one of only six countries — including China and Russia — which are "organising the export of military and security equipment to regimes that kill and torture their victims", the pressure group says.
Amnesty's investigator, James Wood, said he believes the Government is turning a blind eye to British companies trading in torture on the international market and specialising in human electric shock weapons.
Mr Wood claimed that British companies are playing a "significant part" in the supply of electric torture weapons to some 40 countries around the world. He alleged that five British companies have been engaged in the torture trade.
Electric prods are used to apply electric shocks to the genitals, ears, underarms and other sensitive parts of the body. They are carefully

designed to inflict maximum pain without making the victim lose consciousness. In some countries the favoured method of torture is to insert the prod into the rectum.
In a letter in Amnesty's possession, one of the British companies, SDMS Security Products of Chelsea, west London, offered to supply 300 electric shock weapons to Zaire manufactured by its "associated company" in South Africa.
The letter reads: "I have spoken to the manufacturer and [have] pleasure in confirming that police and military authorities in the following countries have ordered the units over the past four years." It lists 30 countries to which electric shock weapons have been supplied.
According to Amnesty at least five of these 30 countries — Cyprus, Bulgaria, Venezuela, Mexico and Indonesia — are known to use electric shocks for torture.
Amnesty's report also criticises the British government for allowing armoured patrol vehicles to be supplied to the Indonesian government, which has a record of suppression in East Timor, and supplying rubber

Victims to get a say in trials of criminals

Alan Travis
VICTIMS of some of the most serious crimes are to be exempted from a new scheme unveiled by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, to ensure that the courts are aware of the full physical and emotional effects of the attacks they suffer.
The introduction of detailed "impact statements" is intended to give victims the opportunity formally to explain the effect of what happened to them so it can be taken into account by the police, the Crown Prosecution Service and the courts before they decide how to deal with the alleged criminal.
Year-long pilot schemes are to be launched in six police force areas in August to test the new scheme, which forms the centrepiece of a revised Victim's Charter published by the Government last week.
But the charity Victim Support criticised the package, saying it excluded the families of murder and manslaughter victims, those who have suffered persistent crimes such as stalking and racial harassment, as well as most victims of domestic violence.
It is believed the Home Office has blocked the extension of the scheme to these categories of crime because of questions over the quality of evidence demanded by the courts. Evidence provided by the families of murder victims would open up a new argument about whether the impact on those indirectly affected by a crime should also be taken into account.
"We are very concerned that some of the most vulnerable victims

are being excluded from these plans to improve the information they receive and the opportunities to provide details about how crime has affected them. We believe no victim should be excluded," said Helen Reeves, director of Victim Support.
But David Maclean, the Home Office Minister, insisted the trials were valuable: "This is not going to give victims the right to change charges and the right to determine sentence. Victims don't want that and it would have grave dangers for the legal system," he said.
At present there was a danger the courts did not hear anything at all about the victim. "I trust the courts, the judges and the lawyers that they hear a proper balance, fair account of the impact on the victim, they will then take that into account and give it proper weight," Mr Maclean said.
Among the other measures in the revised charter are a one-stop shop so that every victim of a crime "who opts in" will be told by the police if someone is caught, cautioned or charged and if there is any other significant development in the case. The Probation Service will also be a victim when someone sentenced to life imprisonment, or someone who has committed a serious sexual or violent crime, is to be released.
David Faulkner, Whitehall's chief architect of criminal justice policy in the early 1990s, warned that more severe sentences and harsher prison regimes will increase crime and not cut it. He says Parliament should enact a criminal code which recognises that changes in the treatment of offenders can only have a marginal effect on the level of crime.

£250,000 award for transsexual

Clare Dyer
A TRANSEXUAL engineer who suffered serious injuries at work because her colleagues refused to work with her, has won a landmark sex discrimination ruling that could cost her employers £250,000.
The 29-year-old male to female transsexual, referred to as R, was injured in an accident after she was forced to work alone, and may never work again because of her injuries. She was off work for six months and then sacked because she was left with a permanent disability.
The decision, from London South industrial tribunal, is the first to follow a ruling in April from the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg that transsexuals are protected under a European Commission directive on equal treatment of men and women at work.
The ruling opened the way for the Sex Discrimination Act to be applied to transsexuals for the first time. The latest ruling is a warning to employers that they face large compensation claims if they sack transsexual employees or fail to stop co-workers harassing them.
The tribunal held that industrial tribunals can apply the Sex Discrimination Act to private sector employees without the need for Parliament to amend it — an area of uncertainty following the Luxembourg decision. Public sector employees are covered automatically by EC directives.
Madeleine Rees, R's solicitor, said her client was sexually harassed from the time she announced she was changing sex. Her workmates wrote "queer" and "poofier" on her jacket.
Ms Rees said R had tried to commit suicide after discovering that colleagues kept a book on her, offering £100 to whoever could cause her to resign or suffer serious injuries. Her employers denied the book existed. They are appealing against the decision.



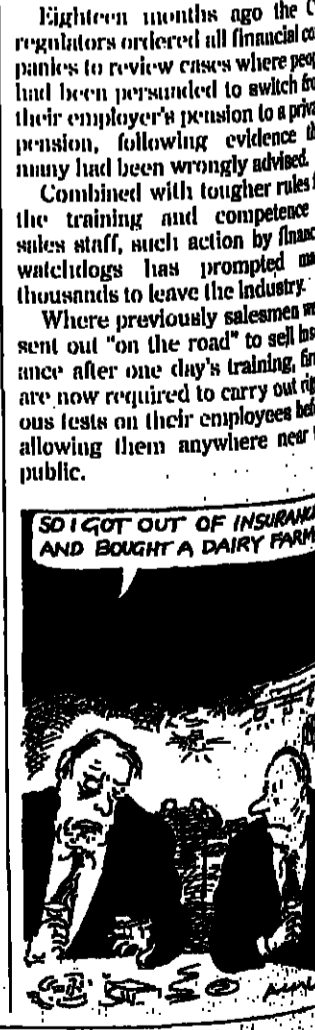
A postal worker on picket duty outside a central London sorting office. The June 21 walkout was called in protest against Royal Mail's determination to introduce US-style 'team-working'. PHOTO: MARTIN GODWIN

RSPCA attacks hunters

David Harrison
THE RSPCA last week declared war on hunting lobbyists who are infiltrating the society in an attempt to weaken its opposition to blood sports.
The society voted overwhelmingly to reaffirm its anti-hunting policy, resist entryists' efforts to change the policy, and force all membership applicants to declare that they do not take part in activities that cause "avoidable suffering" to animals.
Nearly 3,000 members of the British Field Sports Society have joined the RSPCA in recent months. Members fear that if the trend continues the RSPCA will be swamped by pro-hunters.
The BFSS has 68,000 members — nearly three times as many as the RSPCA's 26,000 — and claims 37,500 affiliate members.
Richard Ryder, campaigns committee chairman, told the RSPCA annual meeting in London that strong action was needed to prevent entryists destroying the RSPCA as they

Recession and watchdogs take heavy toll of salesmen

Dan Atkinson
MORE than 145,000 sales representatives have left the life assurance and pensions industry since the boom years of the late 1980s and early 1990s. The exodus has been caused partly by a crackdown on cowboy operators and partly by the economic slump.
At the turn of the decade, an army of about 220,000 was engaged in selling packaged financial products, including assurance, unit trusts, savings plans and pensions.
This did not include about 12,000 brokers selling standard motor and household-type insurance or the numbers who had started to sell insurance products on behalf of banks. "Bancassurance" did not become fashionable until the early 1990s, when the high street banks took on thousands of people to sell everything from pensions to house insurance.
But even before the industry's ranks were swollen by such people, there were more investment salesmen than postmen. At one for every 120 households they enjoyed a higher ratio to members of the public than GPs.
Now the total of salesmen tied to a particular company is closer to 93,000, a drop of more than half. A series of scandals culminating in the pensions mis-selling fiasco that came to light in the early 1990s contributed to the culling of salesmen.



In Brief

FOR THE first time, more men than women complained about finding doors closed to them when they went looking for work last year, the annual report for the Equal Opportunities Commission revealed. But the doors men were pushing against were often those they would have abounded in the past. Men in their 50s, made redundant from male-dominated industries like shipbuilding and construction, are pursuing the low-paid, part-time jobs that used to be left to women.
AFTER months of uncertainty, Britain's millennium celebration is back on course after the Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, announced that the £500 million project at Greenwich would go ahead.
THE jailing for six months of a diabetic driver who killed another motorist when he blacked out because of a sudden drop in his sugar level has raised fundamental legal and moral issues affecting more than 300,000 insulin-dependent drivers.
THE Archbishop of Canterbury is to visit the Pope in December. It will be seen as a significant attempt to reconcile the Anglo-Catholic wing of the Church of England, demoralised by the decision to ordain women and weakened by high profile converts to the Roman Catholic Church.
THE London School of Economics is to introduce top-up fees for students in a decisive step towards ending free degrees and creating an Ivy League of elite universities.
JOHN PEARN, pilot of the oil tanker Sea Empress which ran aground at Milford Haven in February, was demoted after an inquiry found him guilty of incompetence. Mr Pearn was licensed to pilot ships up to 150,000 tonnes, but this has been reduced to 90,000 tonnes.
THE POLICE Federation is calling for a ban on pistols. The call, in the midst of the Dunblane massacre inquiry, is the most significant pressure so far on the Government for a ban.
AMANDA FLEWITT, who was given a hospital abortion without her consent, won damages thought to be around £10,000. Her lawyers reached an out-of-court settlement with North Nottinghamshire health authority, which runs King's Mill Hospital. The hospital is being sued by two other women.
THE FULL opening of the British Library is to be delayed by yet another year as well as costing the taxpayer an extra £15 million. The opening of the final reading room has been put back from March 1998 to June 1999. The entire library, at St Pancras, central London, should have been opened in 1993.



Gerard Kelly, convicted IRA bomber, Maze prison escapee and Sinn Féin Northern Ireland Forum representative, escaped from police after being arrested during clashes at a loyalist parade in Belfast last week. He was let out of a police car to speak to RUC officers, and, still handcuffed, made off through the crowds. PHOTOGRAPH: ALAN LEWIS

Three charged after raid on bomb factory in Ireland

David Sharrock
THREE men were charged in Dublin last week in connection with the discovery of what is believed to be a large IRA bomb factory.
A second search of the farm at Clonsilla, Co Laois, where the complex was found, also uncovered a "sizeable" underground bunker and a quantity of bomb-making equipment.
The three are accused of possessing Semtex-filled mortar bombs with intent to endanger life.
It prompted the Irish prime minister, John Bruton, to say that Sinn Féin should make a "life-or-death" break with the IRA.
Six of the men were arrested at the farm near the Offaly border in the Irish Republic. Two of the men are IRA veterans — one of them a bomb-maker, and the other held previously for the Eksund gun-running bid from Libya. A seventh man was arrested later.
The arrests followed two days of surveillance. A Garda source said they had caught an IRA "engineering team" assembling a bomb.
One man at the scene challenged the police with a handgun but was quickly overpowered. Semtex and home-made explosive were recovered along with timing devices.
Mr Bruton said the arrests once more called into question the commitment of Sinn Féin and the IRA to peace. "I understand that they were actually in the process of manufacturing arms at the time of the find. Now that runs completely counter to the acceptance by Sinn Féin, for example, of the Mitchell principles, one of which is that there should be no threat of force as part of all-party negotiations. How one can reconcile not threatening force with manufacturing bombs I don't know."
Earlier in the week, the IRA had strongly signalled that it is looking for a way out of a return to violence when it admitted with "sincere regret" that it was responsible for the Manchester bomb and said it was still prepared to call a ceasefire and was "still prepared to enhance the democratic peace process".
The statement followed assessments by senior security sources in Northern Ireland that the IRA is "desperate" to find a way back towards calling a ceasefire.

Health service 'needs an extra £6 billion'

Chris Millihill and David Brindle
THE CASE of a 72-year-old woman who suffered mental anguish while being made to wait 10 weeks for breast cancer surgery was an example of the dangerous cuts in the National Health Service, the British Medical Association was told on Monday.
At its annual conference in Brighton, the BMA called for an extra £6 billion to be put into the health service and for an end to the annual 3 per cent "efficiency savings", which doctors described as a euphemism for cuts.
Sandy Macara, the chairman said: "We cannot go on meeting each succeeding crisis with quick-fix expedients which merely displace the pain and strain elsewhere. This process has been described as shuffling the deck-chairs on the Titanic. We need to change the course of our ship of state into more constantly charted waters if it is not to suffer the same fate."
The doctors warned of insufficient beds, especially in intensive care units, and said staffing levels for doctors and nurses were near to putting patients' safety at risk.
Dr Macara said the UK should increase its total health expenditure from about 7 per cent of gross domestic product to 8 per cent in line with most continental countries. That would produce an extra £6 billion.
The NHS was facing real annual cuts as most of the extra money allocated by the Government was spent

on extra managers or clawed back by the 3 per cent efficiency savings.
Dr Macara said the Government asserted that there had been an increase in funding in the three financial years 1993/94, 1994/95 and 1995/96 of 0.5 per cent, 1.8 per cent and 1.1 per cent. After efficiency savings the real funding over the three years was minus 1.5 per cent, minus 0.5 per cent and minus 1.9 per cent.
"We have called for change: change to restore the ethic of a care-driven service in place of the cash-ridden business whose alien philosophy and ungovernable practices have brought us to the brink of disaster."
The Department of Health said spending was at an all-time high of £42.6 billion in 1996/97. "Last year the NHS received a real-term increase of £500 million. It is an expanding service treating more and more patients."
Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, conceded that the NHS was under pressure but said funding had increased continuously since 1979.
Health managers scoured Mr Macara's "unrealistic" demand and warned that his outspoken comments would frighten people and devalue proper debate.
"An additional £6 billion is the cost of the police force in this country. Is Dr Macara suggesting we take the bobbies off the beat and give them all a stethoscope?" asked Karen Calnes, director of the Institute of Health Services Management.

Girls held in Italy 'duped' into smuggling heroin

Owen Bowcott
TWO teenage British girls held in Italian prisons on drug-smuggling charges this week denied knowing that the luggage they were carrying contained around \$1 million worth of pure heroin.
Melanie Jackman, aged 19, and Marianne Platt, aged 16, both from Brighton, were kept under surveillance by Italian police after flying into Rome's Fiumicino airport from Turkey earlier this month.
The two friends face charges of possessing and importing 4kg of the refined drug after being arrested in the company of a Nigerian couple in the small town of Aversa, 20km outside Rome. The Nigerians had travelled on the same flight from Istanbul.
The British vice-consul in Naples, Michael Burgoyne, has seen both girls, who are being held in different prisons, several times since they were detained on June 7.
Melanie is in a women's prison in Arienzo, near Caserta, along with the Nigerian woman who was arrested with her. Marianne has been moved from a juvenile detention centre in Nisida, near Naples, to a similar institution in Rome.
Mr Burgoyne said: "Physically they are fine, but obviously being arrested was a traumatic experience for them. They have told me that they did not know that the luggage they were carrying contained drugs."
Ms Jackman's father has also

Handwritten text on the left margin: "Jap in the line"

Toxic Gases Found During Gulf War

Bradley Graham and David Brown

AFTER YEARS of declaring that U.S. forces involved in the 1991 Persian Gulf War did not encounter Iraqi chemical weapons...

Among the unanswered questions is whether exposure to the chemicals might have longer term effects on the health of soldiers who served in the Gulf region...

A United Nations inspection team returned to the site in October 1991 and, in a report made available to U.S. government officials...

soldiers suffered nerve gas poisoning. Several blue-ribbon panels of scientists, however, have examined the issue and concluded that there is no single explanation for veterans' ailments...

The Department of Defense has found no evidence that Iraq used weapons during the war. Bacon stressed again last week, "and so far, we have found no clinical evidence that U.S. troops were exposed to chemical weapons."

Pentagon officials said chemical agents, including sarin and mustard gases, were present in a bunker located in a large ammunition storage site called Kamislyah...

Iraq had declared Kamislyah a chemical-weapons storage site shortly after the Gulf War, and U.S. and United Nations inspection teams found nerve-agent rockets and mustard gas shells in open pits there...

Bacon told reporters that U.S. military specialists trained in the detection of chemical weapons had surveyed the bunker before its detonation during the first week of March 1991 and concluded no chemical agents were present...

UNSCOM has concluded that the chemical weapons were in one bunker slightly more than one mile from the location where the chemical weapons were previously detected...

UNSCOM has concluded that the chemical weapons were in one bunker slightly more than one mile from the location where the chemical weapons were previously detected...



Masked threat... Rangers from the U.S. 82nd Airborne wear their gas masks during drill under the hot desert sun while on duty in Saudi Arabia in 1990

bunker had contained chemical agents. But the report was filed away without further notice, according to defense officials.

The report surfaced again, Bacon said, as part of an interagency review of all such evidence ordered by President Clinton in March 1995 to help explain the health problems suffered by some Gulf War veterans.

UNSCOM has concluded that the chemical weapons were in one bunker slightly more than one mile from the location where the chemical weapons were previously detected...

Members of the 37th Engineering Battalion, based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, were about three miles from the bunker when it was detonated, defense officials said.

"If there were any acute health effects from those troops who were closest — the engineers — we would have known it then," said Dr. Stephen Joseph, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs.

So far, efforts to correlate the health data from the 20,000 Gulf War veterans registered in the government's clinical evaluation program have turned up nothing to suggest the bunker's detonation produced any long-term health effects on U.S. soldiers...

"One of the reasons we're having this announcement," Bacon said, "is to call attention to what happened in this area with this bunker, so that people who may feel they have relevant information can come forward and contact the investigators..."

Defense officials said that analysts are reviewing weather and wind conditions at the time of the bunker's destruction. Moreover, U.S. officials plan to look more closely at another eight weapons storage sites...

"This disclosure raises a number of disturbing questions regarding the exposure of Persian Gulf War veterans to chemical and biological agents," said Rep. Lane Evans D-Illinois, who chaired several hearings on possible Gulf War illnesses...

Bodyguard Who Aimed for the Top

Lee Hookstader in Moscow

IN A FLEETING conversation on the campaign trail three weeks ago, Lt. Gen. Alexander Korzhakov, Boris Yeltsin's security chief...

Why not? This reporter asked him. Could Yeltsin win an outright majority in the first round? Or would the runoff race be canceled? Korzhakov flashed his Delphic smile...

Korzhakov evidently could not. Snagged by a trap he set himself, the crafty Korzhakov, widely seen as the second-most powerful man in Russia...

Said a diplomat in Moscow: "It's sort of the good czar getting rid of the evil boyars. The timing is great. It's an unambiguous plus for Yeltsin."

More than any other individual in government, Korzhakov, a confidant to Yeltsin for a decade, has come to symbolize the increasingly closed, secretive and Byzantine nature of the Kremlin...

administration officials, convinced that Korzhakov bugged their offices and tapped their telephones...

His intrigues are legion and legendary. In 1994, armed men under Korzhakov's command raided the Moscow headquarters of the Most Group...

Moreover, Korzhakov has frequently overstepped his official security responsibilities in ways that Moscow insiders found chilling. In 1994, for example, a scandal erupted when it was disclosed that Korzhakov had written a letter to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin...

Said a diplomat in Moscow: "It's sort of the good czar getting rid of the evil boyars. The timing is great. It's an unambiguous plus for Yeltsin."

More than any other individual in government, Korzhakov, a confidant to Yeltsin for a decade, has come to symbolize the increasingly closed, secretive and Byzantine nature of the Kremlin...



Goodbye for now... President Yeltsin (left) with Gen Korzhakov during the election campaign

U.S. Drops to Fourth in Aid League Table

Thomas W. Lippman

THE United States, once the leader in aid to developing nations, has dropped to fourth place in the amount of money it spends on such aid...

Japan, France and Germany contributed more money to Third World development last year than did the United States. It fell to fourth place from second, behind Japan, in 1994. Furthermore, the United States was last among the 21 countries in the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development...

Among the countries that contributed more of their gross national product were Portugal, Ireland and New Zealand, negligible economic powers by comparison with the United States, which has by far the world's biggest economy.

The OECD figures were announced at a news conference last week by the Clinton administration's foreign aid director, J. Brian Atwood, and spokesmen for non-governmental groups that support foreign aid. They used the figures to argue that US aid has fallen too far and that Washington is abdicating its global responsibilities.

"Our foreign assistance program accounts for less than 1 percent of our national federal government budget, about \$34 per taxpayer family," Mr. Atwood said. "That's not generous. We should feel ashamed. We are failing to fulfill our responsibilities as a world power. More importantly, we are failing our own national interests and we're falling our own national values."

The Agency for International Development, which Mr. Atwood Development, has been hit especially hard by budget cuts imposed by the Republican-controlled Congress, where many members are hostile to most forms of foreign aid.

Congress has cut funds for development and humanitarian assistance not including military aid — from \$8.4 billion in fiscal 1995 to \$7 billion this year. Such funds are scheduled to decrease a bit more next year.

Using slightly different categories, the OECD credited the United States with \$7.3 billion in development aid in 1995. Japan gave \$15.5 billion, France \$8.44 billion and Germany \$7.5 billion.

The U.S. figure was one-tenth of 1 percent of gross national product, or the total value at retail prices of all the goods and services that are produced by a national economy in a given time period.

That figure was the lowest in the contributors' group. The highest was Denmark's, at just under 1 percent of GNP.

Market-Worship Widens Income Gap

OPINION Robert Kuttner

THE Census Bureau, in a new report, has officially confirmed the findings of countless other studies: The income gap has been widening for nearly three decades. Between 1968 and 1994, the Census found, the share of total income going to the top fifth of American households increased from 40.5 percent to 46.9 percent...

According to the report, A Brief Look At Postwar U.S. Income Inequality, the bottom 80 percent lost income share. The biggest gains of all went to the top 5 percent. To add insult to injury, this increasing inequality occurred during a period when the overall rate of economic growth slowed down.

Most troubling is that widening inequality seems rooted in structural characteristics of this economic era, not in deliberate government policies. As the Census report documents, inequality has widened both during periods of relatively liberal social and tax policies, and during conservative ones.

Nothing in the election year programs of either party addresses these fundamental shifts. Republicans propose to improve people's economic well-being with tax cuts

and more deregulation. Democrats offer a series of programs in education and training, but funded at token levels that will do little to alter the larger trends.

During the postwar boom, public policy cut in the direction of greater equality. The tax code was much more steeply graduated. The bottom half of taxpayers paid less than 10 percent of their total income in taxes. The top bracket was 91 percent. Corporate tax rates were much higher than today.

On the spending side, social outlay on a much grander scale did help to increase economic equality. Social Security lifted millions of older Americans out of poverty. The GI Bill sent millions on to higher education. Federal housing loans allowed millions to become homeowners for the first time. But even these very large expenditures operated in tandem with a private economy whose institutions were structured to favor greater equality of earnings.

Can we reverse these deeply rooted sources of inequality? Or are they just endemic to a capitalist economy? There are certainly ways to make a market economy more equal — stronger unions, faster growth, more generous income transfers, greater regulation, or strategies to broaden and democratize corporate ownership. But in today's climate of simple market-worship, any of them would require a political revolution.

and more deregulation. Democrats offer a series of programs in education and training, but funded at token levels that will do little to alter the larger trends.

During the postwar boom, public policy cut in the direction of greater equality. The tax code was much more steeply graduated. The bottom half of taxpayers paid less than 10 percent of their total income in taxes. The top bracket was 91 percent. Corporate tax rates were much higher than today.

On the spending side, social outlay on a much grander scale did help to increase economic equality. Social Security lifted millions of older Americans out of poverty. The GI Bill sent millions on to higher education. Federal housing loans allowed millions to become homeowners for the first time. But even these very large expenditures operated in tandem with a private economy whose institutions were structured to favor greater equality of earnings.

Can we reverse these deeply rooted sources of inequality? Or are they just endemic to a capitalist economy? There are certainly ways to make a market economy more equal — stronger unions, faster growth, more generous income transfers, greater regulation, or strategies to broaden and democratize corporate ownership. But in today's climate of simple market-worship, any of them would require a political revolution.

Nothing in the election year programs of either party addresses these fundamental shifts. Republicans propose to improve people's economic well-being with tax cuts

'Tourists' Puzzle Colombia

Douglas Farah in Bogota

AT FIRST, the large influx of Nigerian tourists in recent months baffled Colombian immigration officials. Most spoke no Spanish, appeared to have little money and often looked weak and dazed as they left the country.

Then, in April, after having grown suspicious of a large tourist group and followed it, police learned the reason. In raids at three hotels here, police found 22 Nigerians and 31 citizens of other West African nations packing 180 pounds of cocaine into their shirts, shoes and stomachs to take to Europe, Asia and Japan, where the price of cocaine is far higher than in the United States.

When the suspects said they were tourists, police asked what they had come to see in Bogota, a mountain metropolis 8,000 feet above sea level and more than 200 miles from the Pacific coast. The Nigerians said they had come to visit Bogota's beaches, police said. Two dozen of those rounded up remain in prison here, charged with drug trafficking.

U.S. and Colombian narcotics experts said the presence of Nigerians is the latest sign of how Nigerian crime syndicates, which already control most of the heroin shipments from Asia to Europe, are expanding. The Nigerian groups appear to be moving into the Latin American cocaine and heroin markets, and they are doing it by building networks of

"mules," people recruited to transport two to five pounds of drugs in their bodies. While a kilo (2.2 pounds) of cocaine sells for about \$15,000 in Miami, the price can reach \$45,000 in Europe and \$70,000 in Japan.

Law enforcement officials said Nigerian-controlled syndicates are not trying to compete with Colombia's Cali cocaine and heroin cartels, the largest in the world, by building complete trafficking structures. Rather, the officials said, the mules buy the cocaine here in relatively small amounts, then resell it abroad.

So far at least, the Nigerian traffickers are dealing with low-level Colombian traffickers for small quantities, rather than clipping deals with senior Colombian traffickers. "In the overall scheme of things, [Nigerian drug trafficking] is not serious, but it pales in comparison to larger problems, as orchestrated by Colombians and Mexican organized crime groups, for the United States," said Craig Chretien, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's chief of international operations.

Some carriers place the drugs in a condom, wrap the condom in a paper or black electrical tape, and put it in a paper or plastic bag. Then they swallow it. But if a condom is used in the stomach, it can bring a person death. To avoid that, carriers go on special diets and avoid eating during the long flights.

Missing the Blooms as Time Goes By

OPINION Ellen Goodman

THE LILACS have gone by. I take note of this with an unexpected snap of regret as I take my morning commute from the kitchen to the driveway.

The flowers had made their annual appearance on the bushes that stand beside my backdoor. For two weeks, they had permeated the air with a seductive promise: the way a perfume wafts into the atmosphere of a department store.

I planned to take up their offer, to spend time in their company. But now the last of the blooms has turned a crusty deadhead shade of beige. And I had paid only the most transient of visits; enjoyed only a contact high, a small whiff of their possibilities.

This morning, it is the absence of lilacs that finally stops me in my tracks. I brake belatedly to pay the toll of attention to what is now missing. A year's worth of lilacs, an entire life span of flowers.

I repeat the phrase in my mind:

The lilacs have gone by. It is what gardeners say. But in fact, the lilacs stayed in one place and I had gone by them, hurrying, on the move.

Behind me in this small city garden there are irises in bloom now. The peonies are on the way, the ants already feasting the sweet sap off their buds. They will be followed by day lilies and black-eyed Susans, by asters and fall. I run down the perennial calendar and in a wave, become nostalgic for the summer that has yet to officially begin.

Is it seasonal, this consciousness of the racing pulse of daily life? Is the awareness of flowers "going by" more than a banal metaphor for transience? Is it, rather, some alarm coded into our DNA?

The days are still lengthening, but lately my friends have been wistful about time, the common currency of their lives. They talk of spending too much time on what are dubbed essentials. Too many hours seem to be taken out of their week, as if the week were a paycheck, too much withheld before they get to some small luxury, a moment of discretionary spending.

I repeat the phrase in my mind:

At lunch last week, a woman not given to maudlin cost accounting had figured out on her actuarial table that she has probably 30 more chances to see the pink ladyslippers in the woods. Thirty is a lot said the woman who is approaching 50 herself. But it is also, suddenly, finite.

The other day, an economist who jet lags between cities and seasons, stopped to talk about the lupine he was leaving behind on his way to Singapore. Why couldn't the geneticists manipulate the bloom dates for our convenience the way politicians move presidents' birthdays around for the benefit of a long weekend? In his mockery, there was longing...

This morning, dangling out of my briefcase is a plastic bag of excess black-eyed Susans that I dug up in a rush last night. Flowers for a friend. On the phone last week, we talked about the sense of channel-surfing through life. Work, click, click, click, parents, click, errands, click. With split-second timing it was possible to cover everything — but only if we stay on the surface.

What happens when life becomes a list, we asked each other? When even the pleasurable things become items to check off? What happens when we are getting through the days? What are we getting through and to? But our thoughts were interrupted by call-waiting.

What times we are living in, time-deficient times in an era of high productivity and low sensibility. A working woman on the television news the other night talked longingly about wanting time off to see her child play ball. Everyday in the paper there is a story about downsizing, rightizing. There is growing pressure and pride in efficiency. Some are running scared, some are running to catch up, and others just running...

Maybe this speed trap is not so clear in the taupe sameness of winter when one day stretches endlessly like another. But sometimes, standing in a garden, a season can seem as short as the lifespan of a day lily. Sometimes, you catch a glimpse of something in human nature that longs to spend time lavishly. To relish as well as to produce.

On a late spring morning, there is a wistful reminder in this natural datebook. How quickly things "go by." Life and lilacs.

On a late spring morning, there is a wistful reminder in this natural datebook. How quickly things "go by." Life and lilacs.

Paperbacks

Nicholas Lezard

The Information, by Martin Amis (Fleming, £6.99)

SO IMPORTANT that it does not need its name on the front cover. A year on, and I am still not sure whether it is a failure or not.

Kicking the Pricks, by Derek Jarman (Vintage, £8.99)

MEMORIES, interviews, film stills and rotten poetry by Jarman. All of it, except the poetry, great fun (more consistently fun, even than his cinematic oeuvre), as you would expect from a playful and irreverent mind.

Inside the Mouse: Work and Play at Disney World (Rivers Oram Press, £12.95)

THE result of a project conducted by four academics and writers working under the Duke University umbrella, their mission being to observe and theorise about the Disneyworld Gestalt.

Benjamin Britten's Poets, ed Boris Ford (Corgi, £12.95)

AN EXCELLENT idea, brilliantly and meticulously effected: setting down all the lyrics which Britten set to music, printed in the order in which he did so.

Books @ The Guardian Weekly

To order any of the books reviewed or in print, over 100,000 titles available:

Phone: (+44) 181 984 1281 Fax: (+44) 181 984 1254

Payment by credit card or UK/Eurocheque payable to: Guardian Weekly Books

Postal address: 29 Pall Mall Depot, Barbican, London WC1N 6BL, UK

Airmail postage costs (per book): Europe Rest of World

Hardback - £3.95 £7.50 Paperback - £1.95 £2.95

Beware the comfy chair

Natasha Walter

Altered States by Anita Brookner Jonathan Cape 220pp £14.99

FOR some people, the immediate reaction to an Anita Brookner novel is the horrified cry of that old Monty Python sketch: "No, no, not the comfy chair!"

Why does this moment induce a kind of horror in the reader? Here is the narrator, Alan Sherwood, taking part in one of the most important conversations of his life.

Such images, in which the body unexpectedly freezes, giving way to sleep or silence or immobility, are endlessly repeated throughout this novel and throughout Brookner's oeuvre.



would go upstairs to his own flat and pass out. I always left soon after lunch so as to let Mother have a rest."

People are forever falling ill, and being confined to their beds. Or they are unable to go out because they must look after someone else who is ill.

Alan's wife, Angela, is the clearest embodiment of this dangerous passivity. When they go on holiday, he finds her day after day, "lying on the sofa in the salle de séjour."

The expression of this frightening torpor, in which comfort, inertia and death are constantly melded, is Brookner's great strength.

all share this petrified quality, as though they are caught in a Munch painting, mouths open in a silent scream.

For this reason her best-known book, the Hotel Du Lac, was her most successful work. Its passive, inert heroine, who misses her own wedding by simply remaining in the car, was utterly convincing as the nexus of this petrified world.

Look at the details, and you can see how misplaced are Brookner's attempts to portray sexual love.

Alan's beloved, Sarah, has long red hair, a symbol of sexuality, no doubt, but it has a "waxy smell". Waxy - corpse-like, deathly, not very sexy.

What an extraordinary way of doing sexual passion are the "something inert". In sentences that Brookner betrays her lack of expression sensual energies.

Whenever I read articles about the death of the novel, it is she, Anita Brookner, who springs to mind. She embodies something and decadent about contemporary English literature, and yet her works are admired because of the "literary" quality.

This is the dead end of English literature, a cul-de-sac where enered gestures stand in for creativity, and a careful aura of literariness replaces literature.

Against that frieze of frozen gestures are other, altogether livelier British writers, who are still integrating both literature and the world around them, still pushing the limits of the novel to respond to their experiences and their dreams.

Beneath this abstract, false literary style, what is she trying to do? There is a void in her novels, where there should be a heart. At the core of Altered States, Brookner seems to give a kind of apology for her own existence as a writer.

Maybe there is room, but English literature is to have a star as well as a past, it is one that shouldn't linger in.

Love's chemistry

Jenny Turner

Ecstasy: Three Tales of Chemical Romance by Irvine Welsh Jonathan Cape 276pp £14.99 and £9.99 (paperback)

IRVINE WELSH is the sort of writer who would make the very worst sort of boyfriend. There are bad bits even in the magnificent splattershock of Bad Blood, the student Junk Dilemmas which pop up like test cards right the way through the book.

Ecstasy, to coin a phrase, is the worst book yet from a writer who has been going from weakness to weakness ever since Transpositing began its roll in 1993.

The first tale, "Lorraine Goes to Livingston", cuts together a mildly satirical piece of pulp romance writing with an apparently unironic little sicism about how a couple of nurses wreak revenge upon the corrupted perverts who run the local NHS Trust.

The second tale in particular picks up on Welsh's customary fondness for childishly cruel revenge fantasies and gross images of physical distress.

the-pudding number, or the guy with sliced-off eyelids and his own disconcerted penis stuffed into his mouth, it is certainly quite funny and cathartic in a Jake-and-Dinos-Chapman sort of way.

"Fortune's Always Hiding" - "A Corporate Drug Romance" - is about how a young woman prenatally damaged by a painkiller called "Tenazadrine" hem-hem cannot still her quest for vengeful mayhem until she has kidnapped the infant child of hem-hem "Tenazadrine's" inventor and chain-sawed off its arms.

The very worst thing about Ecstasy, however, is all the Ecstasy in it. Or rather, it is the way that all a character has to do is to drop one in a raverie, and hey presto, entire personalities suddenly change for ever more.

The second tale in particular picks up on Welsh's customary fondness for childishly cruel revenge fantasies and gross images of physical distress.

Then he turns to look at me. His eyes are huge black pools" (tale 3).



Irvine Welsh: Ecstasy fixation

The accents vary, but the coups are identically teenybop. Irvine Welsh is 38 this year, according to his own sources.

In spite of its occasional wet patch, Transpositing was at bottom a profoundly disciplined book. Its deep structure dramatises an exacting struggle between the forces of life, as played by Renton's gloriously savage intellectual energy, and the forces of death, in the shape of his on-off addiction to heroin.

"I don't want to be a spokesperson for anyone," Irvine Welsh said in 1993. Three years on and he seems happy to lounge around in the "poet laureate of the chemical generation" beanie awarded him by the Face.

Secrets of the mind

Ian Hamilton

Robert Frost: A Biography by Jeffrey Meyers Constable 353pp £20

ROBERT FROST was wary of biography but by no means disdainful of its power to damage even the most sturdily based literary reputation.

Frost, after all, had an image to protect. In the eyes of his large readership, he was the lovable New England farmer-bard, tough-minded, independent, genial - and quintessentially American.

For the next 25 years Thompson served as Frost's factotum, accompanying the poet on his travels and assisting, when required, in the continuing ascent of his prestige and celebrity.

It was generally assumed that his disciple's biography, when it appeared, would be a hymn of praise.

During his long years of trusted funkyness, Thompson had come to despise Frost. The first two volumes of his 2,000-page life portrayed Frost as a mean-minded self-advancer, corrupt in his literary-political manoeuvres, close to madness in his vengefulness and spite.

At one level Waiting For The Sun could be read as a companion volume to Kenneth Anger's Hollywood Babylon, although Hoskyn's intentions are more complex and serious.

His sensitivity to a broad spectrum of music helps him illuminate a story unusually rich in circumstantial detail and business background. Lesser known figures like the bandleader Johnny Otis, who was born white but lived black, are properly brought into the spotlight.

Meyers also deals sympathetically with Frost's handling of his personal relationships. Dreadful things happened in Frost's life, and Thompson tended to portray him as insufficiently dismayed by deaths and disasters which would have wrecked a weaker man, a kinder man.

When, Elinor died, Frost wrote to a friend: "I'm afraid I deceived her a little by pretending for the sake of argument that I didn't think the world as bad a place as she did."

Frost, of course, did say so in print, repeatedly, and Meyers is good at connecting the poems to the life. His major coup, though, comes in his treatment of the last two decades of Frost's life, the decades in which Thompson was at his side.

THOMPSON, in fact, died in 1973 and did not complete the third volume of his trilogy, so we cannot be certain how he would have treated the affair.

Meyers believes that Thompson had deep reasons for not telling. He, too, it now transpires, had an affair with Morrison. Indeed, she was in love with him, and not with Frost.

In this new life of Frost, Jeffrey Meyers has set himself the task of rescuing Frost's reputation from the worst of Thompson's slanders.

Sounds from the edge of the world

Richard Williams

Waiting for the Sun by Barney Hoskyns Viking 356pp £20

IT'S HARD to visit Los Angeles without wanting to make sense of it. The place presents us with a vision of our future, perhaps of our apocalypse, served up with a location and a cast - and a climate - irresistible to a writer.

Hoskyns, whose earlier books include a fine study of soul singing called Say It One More Time For The Brokenhearted, begins and ends the story with the bebop and rhythm and blues of Central Avenue in the 1940s and closing with the gangsta rap of Compton and South Central LA in the present decade.

It is not necessary to approve of the Eagles or their songs to recognise that nothing so accurately expresses the tainted beauty, the poisoned sweetness, the cheap potency of the city, if the best place to hear Gabrielle's anthem is in St Mark's, for which it was designed, then the aching voices of these spotted choirboys and the cutting sting of a steel guitar belong on a car

radio in the neon glow of Mulholland Drive at twilight, facing west, looking down from the ridge with the lights twinkling and the sun setting over the ocean dead ahead. And that, too, is what it brings to mind for millions who have never even been there.

Hoskyns, whose earlier books include a fine study of soul singing called Say It One More Time For The Brokenhearted, begins and ends the story with the bebop and rhythm and blues of Central Avenue in the 1940s and closing with the gangsta rap of Compton and South Central LA in the present decade.

But California music is also the disquieting fantasy world of Jim Morrison and the Doors, the uneasy affluence of Joni Mitchell, the dyspeptic laments

of Tom Waits and the violence of the punk groups X and Black Flag. What the author turns out to be searching for is the fault line, the crack in the dream which opens to reveal the darkness.

At one level Waiting For The Sun could be read as a companion volume to Kenneth Anger's Hollywood Babylon, although Hoskyn's intentions are more complex and serious.

Photographs of the principal characters and of the significant locations - Canter's deli, the Capitol building, the Chateau Marmon, the Roxy - are neatly dropped into the narrative of a book which, one way and another, has a lot to say about the city at the edge of the world.

Confessions of a reluctant war junkie

Jonathan Steele

Love Thy Neighbour: A Story of War by Peter Maass Pantheon 306pp £10

THE protective cladding has gone from the glass-fronted entrance of Sarajevo's Holiday Inn. The lift work, and even if the upstairs corridor takes you to your room past the bare shell of a neighbouring one with no doors or furniture except an upturned bath and a gaping hole, where the window should be, the shooting has stopped.

For more than three years the Holiday Inn was the centre of Bosnia's commuter war, the eye of a hurricane from which camera crews and reporters would race to the latest horror before returning to their satellites and laptop computers to file, edit and unwind.

What made the hotel special was that the oasis became the target. As Peter Maass recounts in his fine book, unwelcome room service could turn up at any moment, with a sniper's bullet or an artillery shell knocking at the door. The hotel's

position close to the dividing line made it a tempting aim-point for Serb trigger-men in the suburb of Grbavica just across the river.

He tells one anecdote which takes commuter reporting to its weirdest but real extreme. In an armoured Land Rover he and two colleagues drove to Serb military headquarters for permission to visit Grbavica, and an hour later were with Slobodan, a Serb sniper on the upper floor of an abandoned apartment block, overlooking the Holiday Inn.

Peter Maass spent 1992 and 1993 in Bosnia for the Washington Post, when ethnic cleansing was at its height. The atrocities he records have been recounted many times. But what makes his book stand out, are his honesty and skill in dissecting the emotions of the press corps.

seductive, the half-mad look in her eyes or the scarlet drops of blood on her extended hand... the murk her buildings were destroyed and the more starved her residents looked, the more seductive she was.

Mass went to Bosnia, he says, to discover how the descent into darkness could have been so rapid. He divides the world into three. There are manipulators like Karadzic and Milosevic, who take the restraints away, and there is the wild beast which prowls beneath the thin veneer of every society.

They are the appeasers. It is his generic name for diplomats, chiefs, and government spokesmen. Mass does not seek to explain the history of the Bosnian war, or record the string of failed international conferences.

Half way through, he makes an extraordinary confession. Some 100,000 people died in the two years he was in Bosnia, he writes, but he only saw one corpse, an old lady who died of cold in Sarajevo's People's Home.

Mass does not seek to explain the history of the Bosnian war, or record the string of failed international conferences. His focus is the micro-picture, what he saw and heard himself, and particularly what he and his colleagues felt. As an account of the media at war, it is high. You feel he is often looking into the mirror, not to check his medals, but to see if he is Dwight Grey.

They are the appeasers. It is his generic name for diplomats, chiefs, and government spokesmen. Mass does not seek to explain the history of the Bosnian war, or record the string of failed international conferences.

DO YOU HAVE A BOOK TO PUBLISH? The leading independent publisher may be able to help you. THE PENLAND PRESS

YOUR BOOK PUBLISHED? All authors who want to see their work in print should consider publishing with a complete and professional service from a leading independent publisher.

Vertical text on the left margin, possibly a date or page reference.

Euro 96 England 0 Spain 0 (after extra time, England won 4-2 on penalties)

Seaman's handiwork sinks Armada

David Lacey at Wembley

AT LAST the 1966 show. The further England progressed in the European Championship the more likely it became that Germany would lie across their path in the semi-finals. So it has proved.

Since winning the World Cup on that sunny, showery Wembley afternoon England have beaten the Germans only twice in 11 meetings, 2-0 in a friendly in 1975 and 3-0 in a mini-tournament in Mexico City 10 years later, when Franz Beckenbauer's jet-lagged players were merely fulfilling their contractual obligations. Either way, Wednesday's encounter should be different.

For England had memories of Turin six years ago still rankle. Again they have reached the semi-finals of a major tournament on penalties — those scored by Gary Lineker against Cameroon in Italia 90 and the one saved by David Seaman to beat Spain on Saturday.

If Terry Venables's players combine the attacking flair they showed against Holland with the defensive resilience that frustrated Spain, he may well join Sir Alf Ramsey as only the second man to take England to a major final.

Having survived extra-time against a technically superior but chronically impotent Spanish side, England won a tense though largely unexceptional quarter-final 4-2 on penalties.

Whether they like it or not this England team will for ever be associated with bars — Hong Kong bars,



Super saver . . . Seaman fells Nadal's penalty attempt to give England victory PHOTOGRAPH: KEVIN LAMARQUE

Snickers bars and the crossbar struck by Hierro with Spain's opening lick of the shoot-out.

In that instant Wembley knew its concerted booring of all things Hispanic had reduced the Spanish cause to a Quixotic gesture. Puerile though the noises off were, England would have suffered a symphony of whistles given a similar situation in Seville.

When Pearce placed his kick beyond Zubizarreta, instead of hitting the goalkeeper's legs as he had done in the 1990 World Cup semi-final shoot-out with the Germans, the old Forester must have felt the relief of losing a grumbling appendix. Yet the final heroic moment belonged, inevitably, to Seaman,

whose save from Nadal spared Fowler the angst of a further penalty. England's debt to their able Seaman grows and grows. At this rate he must surely end the tournament a rear-admiral.

Whatever the manner of its achievement, England's victory has guaranteed Venables a place on the national team's modest roll of honour. Reaching the last four of a major tournament is roughly what is required of a host nation. Anything else is a bonus. England have surely gone beyond the point of failure.

Saturday's performance had little of the sheer exuberance of the 4-1 victory over the Dutch in mid-week. Spain's superior organisation was responsible for that.

The broad avenues of space so eagerly exploited against Holland had become cula-de-sac. England spent much of the game in pursuit of the ball; no wonder so many legs gave out after 90 minutes.

Call it resilience, guts or sheer bloodmindedness, there was another sort of glory on Saturday. Much of it concerned the marvellous performances in defence of Adams and Southgate, with Pearce not far behind.

Deprived, through suspension, of Ince's protection in midfield, and given added responsibility when Gary Neville was pushed forward after half-time to curb the advances of Sergi, this trio refused to be cowed by the obvious superiority on

the ball of Amor, Hierro, Caminero, Sergi, Salinas and Alfonso.

Yet in one instance England did ride their luck. The replay showed that the goal Salinas scored in the 33rd minute, after a miscue by Hierro had thrown the England defence, should not have been disallowed for offside.

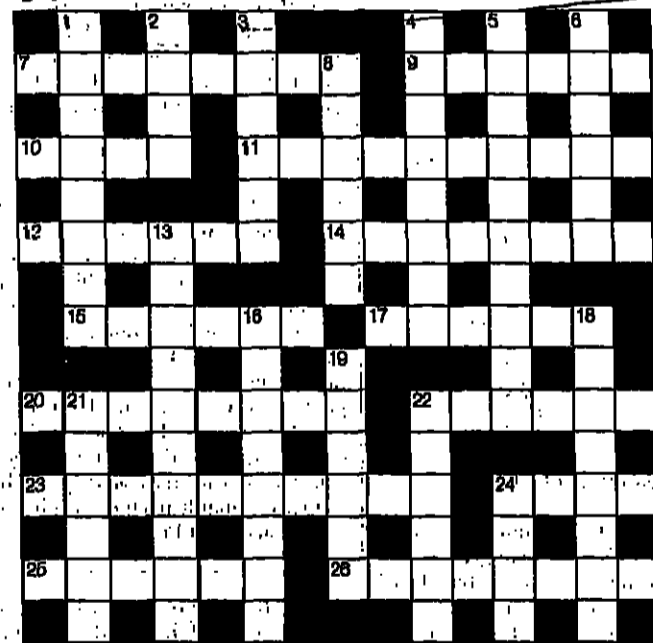
By playing Nadal in a back three and withdrawing Manjarin and Kiko behind Salinas, Javier Clemente left himself with too narrow an attacking front. Sergi gave Spain width in the first half but, once Neville moved forward to meet him, this threat faded. For Neville, however, the victory was pyrrhic. Eager to obey Venables's orders, the right-back caught Sergi from behind two minutes into the second half and a second yellow card meant he missed the semi-final.

On chances created, if not the overall standard of their passing and movement, England deserved to progress. For all their skill, Spain did not draw from Seaman the saves Zubizarreta had to make from Shearer, in the third minute, Adams on the half-hour and Gascoigne early in extra-time, the nearest either side came to winning through sudden death.

England's 4-1 victory over Holland in their final Group A match is widely being acclaimed as their most famous victory since the 1966 World Cup final. Two goals apiece from Shearer, including a penalty, and Sheringham enabled England to sweep past the 1988 European champions on their way to the quarter-final meeting with Spain.

Scotland were eliminated from the tournament by the virtue of scoring one goal less than Holland. Their 1-0 victory over Switzerland was not enough, and they finished in third place.

Cryptic crossword by Crispa



- 2 The contents of most, unfortunately, are shocking (4)
- 3 Order, given unlimited credit (8)
- 4 Value a quiet compliment (8)
- 5 Country people carrying cash? That's a joke! (10)
- 6 12's cosy accommodation (6)
- 8 With Access a most desirable rich cake may be obtained (6)
- 13 Break apart, one is working (10)
- 16 Gather around helper returning from the centre (6)
- 18 Training royalty in duty (8)
- 19 Not charged for rage — it would appear wrong (6)
- 21 A party the leftist liked very much (6)
- 22 Call out second best (6)
- 24 The kind alternative in a way (4)

Across

- 7 Out-of-reach item when there's very little money (8)
- 9 Window fitting that's dear, having wood in it (6)
- 10 The guy receiving nothing will make complaint (4)
- 11 Has in mind to meet tears in net (10)
- 12 Sort of dog for the equestrian lot? (6)
- 14 A military leader in charge, efficient yet courteous (8)
- 15 No longer insolent, being clever (6)
- 17 The end of anything but... (6)

Down

- 1 aggressive (6)
- 20 Where the French supporter backed bluff (8)
- 22 Housing fit only for pigs went first as arranged (8)
- 23 Businessman getting cold riding farm machinery (10)
- 24 The boot should hold a full amount (4)
- 25 About a hundred take on fuel and start back (6)
- 26 Green in the main? (3-5)

Last week's solution

MURKLE SUPERBLY
A L E N C L Y A
JURIA PIDEBLOW
O E S U E I L N
ROSTERER MOONE
B A N C Q W D
TRANQUILITY
Y A U S O V A
Q I T N H V U
OUNGE DRINKWINE
T O W P R N A B C
H O U S E P A C P I E T A
I L L A P O K
G R A P H I C K A N T H E

Cricket Second Test: England v India

Debutants enjoy the ball

Mike Selvey at Lord's

INDIAN cricket, on the rack at Edgbaston, rediscovered itself at Lord's. Although the match ended in a draw, there were wickets in England's first innings for Venkatesh Prasad, who with Javagal Srinath already forms one of the most potent opening attacks in the world.

Then, when they batted, neither the genius Tendulkar nor the sorcerer Azharuddin scored the runs but two novices in their first Tests. On Saturday, Saurav Ganguly, a rare Bengali Test cricketer, made a century in more than seven hours of concentration in only the third hundred on this ground by a man playing his maiden Test innings.

No Test match has seen two debutants from the same team score centuries. India came within a whisker as Rahul Dravid, who had kept Ganguly company during a sixth-wicket stand of 94, carried on where his partner had left off, making 95 before he was plinth out.

Dravid's contribution carried India to 429, a first innings lead of 85 and a position from which they could make life awkward for England. In the end, Mike Atherton declared England's second innings closed at 278 for nine, with not even the remotest chance of a result.

There was, of course, emotion. Dicky Bird's final session as international umpire had been greeted with yet another standing ovation

from a small crowd, and he had his obligatory blub using what will surely soon be marketed as the Dicky Bird Superhanky.

Two hours later, he gave his index finger one final airing as he sent Jack Russell back to the pavilion before, at 5.20 and fidgeting still, he heaved a sigh, shook hands all round with the Indian team, removed the balls and was given a police escort from the field.

This had promised to be a quiet last day at the office. However, with lunch still a quarter of an hour away and the lead just 83, the fourth wicket of the day had fallen and Russell, the hero of the first innings with a gutsy 124, found himself trudging out to join Ronnie Irani.

Fortunately, after his five-hour blockathon with Atherton in Johannesburg this situation was right up Russell's road. Everything that India's bowlers could propel at him, including a second new ball, was repelled during the afternoon and although he lost Irani shortly before tea for 41, the game was by no means safe. Although there was competition from Ganguly's composed century, there was little doubt that it was Russell who was the Man of the Match.

England 344 (Russell 124, Thorpe 89, Prasad 5 for 76), India 429 (Dravid 95, Ganguly 131, Dravid 95). Match draws.

